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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/746,361      | 12/22/2000  | Thomas M. Armstrong  | PB-0092             | 2193             |

22840 7590 12/26/2002

AMERSHAM BIOSCIENCES  
PATENT DEPARTMENT  
800 CENTENNIAL AVENUE  
PISCATAWAY, NJ 08855

EXAMINER

MERLINO, AMANDA H

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

2877

DATE MAILED: 12/26/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|                              |                 |                  |
|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | Application No. | Applicant(s)     |
|                              | 09/746,361      | ARMSTRONG ET AL. |
| Examiner                     | Art Unit        |                  |
| Amanda H Merlino             | 2877            |                  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed

- after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2000.  
 2a)  This action is FINAL. 2b)  This action is non-final.  
 3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4)  Claim(s) 1-38 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6)  Claim(s) 1-38 is/are rejected.  
 7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 11)  The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a)  approved b)  disapproved by the Examiner.  
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.  
 12)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a)  All b)  Some \* c)  None of:  
 1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
 \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.  
 14)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
 a)  The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.  
 15)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

#### Attachment(s)

1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5.

4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
 6)  Other:

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4 and 6-38 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by McClelland et al (5,191,215).

McClelland et al teach of an optical analysis chamber comprising an optically transmissive elongated tubular body (12) having an interior and exterior surface, said body wall having a window (14') having a curved surface wherein said window has a non uniform thickness (figure 3).

Claims 5 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Abbott et al (4,565,448).

Abbott et al teach of an optical analysis chamber comprising an optically transmissive elongated tubular body (16) having an interior and exterior surface, said body wall having a window wherein sample passageway (16B) is offset from the longitudinal axis of said tubular body (16).

With regards to claims 22-38 (method of making), the claims are rejected in view of applicant's own admission of prior art on page 26, which states that the methods are well known in the art. If applicant disagrees with this, a restriction might be necessary.

### ***Examiner's Comments***

Examiner notes that the embodiment of figure 4 appears to be allowable; however the present claims are too broad and was rejected as stated above.

### ***Conclusion***

*Papers related to the application may be submitted to Group 2800 by Fax transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 2800 via the PTO Fax Machine located in Crystal Plaza 4. The form of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The CP4 Fax Machine number is:*

**703-308-7722**

If the applicant wishes to send a Fax dealing with a Proposed Amendment for discussion for a phone interview then the fax should:

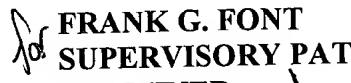
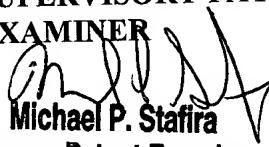
- 1) Contain either the statement "DRAFT" or "PROPOSED AMENDMENT" on the Fax Cover Sheet; and
- 2) Should be unsigned by the attorney or agent.

This will ensure that it will not be entered into the case and will be forwarded to the examiner as quickly as possible.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to *Examiner Amanda H. Merlino* whose telephone number is (703) 305-3488. The examiner can be reached on Mondays and Thursdays only.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-0956.

Amanda H. Merlino *ahm*  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2877  
December 12, 2002/ahm

  
FRANK G. FONT  
SUPERVISORY PATENT  
EXAMINER  
  
Michael P. Stafira  
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